

Estimation of sockeye and coho salmon escapement in Mortensens Creek, Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, 2001

Abstract: A fixed picket weir was operated on Mortensens Creek from 1 July to 26 October 2001. Coho salmon *Onchorynchus kisutch* was the most abundant species counted through the weir (N=5,279) followed by sockeye *O. nerka* (N=4,268), chum *O. keta* (N=21), and pink salmon *O. gorbushca* (N=15). Dolly Varden char *Savelinus malma* were also observed at the weir. Sockeye salmon sampled at the weir were 42% female (SE=2.5%), and represented nine age groups. Age 1.3 was estimated to be 67% (SE=2.7%) of the escapement followed by age 1.2 (16%; SE=2.0%). The mid-eye-to-fork length for male sockeye salmon ranged from 479 to 632 mm and from 467 to 612 mm for females. Coho salmon sampled at the weir were 40% female (SE=2.7%) and represented three age groups. Age 2.1 was estimated to account for 82% (SE=2.2%) of the sample followed by age 1.1 (14%; SE=1.9%), and 3.1(4%; SE=1.2%). The mid-eye-to-fork length for male coho salmon ranged from 340 to 735 mm and from 490 to 704 mm for females.

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